GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:381
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2000
EXPORT DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR N.E. AND SIKKIM
PATY RIPPLE KYNDIAH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

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(a) whether Export Development Fund has been set up for the North Eastern Region and Sikkim; (

(b) if so, the modalities for operation of Export Development Fund; and (

(c) the Export Houses/ Entrepreneurs who have been benefited from the fund and the amount disbursed so far to each State,agency-wise and purpose-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENTREFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 381 FOR ANSWER ON 15-12-2000, REGARDING EXPORT DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR N.E. AND SIKKIM.

(a) to (c) : An Export Development Fund (EDF) has been set up with the objective of assisting specific activities for promotion of exports from the North-Eastern region of the country including Sikkim. All activities, which have a linkage with the exports from the region and are designed to help exports, are eligible for assistance from the Fund. All government and private sector agencies engaged in promoting exports from the North Eastern Region and Sikkim can seek assistance under the Fund.

The Fund has been set up in September 2000 with an initial corpus of Rs. 5 Crores drawn from the Non-Lapseable Pool of Funds. The Fund is being maintained by the Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under the Department of Commerce. The guidelines for the operation of seeking assistance from the Fund have already been issued and circulated to all the State Governments/concerned agencies. Wide publicity has also been given.

An Empowered Committee has been set up in the Department of Commerce to consider and approve the proposals. The committee will also monitor the implementation of the sanctioned proposals.

Funds are to be released on receipt and examination of proposals. So far, no funds have been released under the scheme.